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UNITED NATIONS DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME

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DP/PROJECTS/7282

ENGLISH

APPROVAL OF UNDP ASSISTANCE TO A PROJECT OF
CHINA

IPF: (1992-96) $176 600 000
(CPR/92/G32) - Development of Coalbed Methane Resources in China

Date of approval by the AC: 1/	29 April 1992
Expected duration:	Three years
Proposed executing agency:	United Nations
Government implementing agency:	The Ministry of Energy
Proposed UNDP contribution:	$10 000 000 Source of funds: GEF
Total UNDP budget:	$10 000 000

Project background

With an annual production of 1.14 billion tons, China is the world's largest coal producer and also the largest emitter of coalbed methane, a potent greenhouse gas (20-60 times more potent than carbon dioxide). Increases in methane concentrations have been highly correlated with increases in population and human activity. Stabilizing emissions will require reductions of about 15-20 percent of those. These are much lower than those required for other greenhouse gases and can be achieved profitably or at low cost because methane is a useful energy source.

Coal production accounts for about 10 percent of total human-related methane emissions. Out of 600 state managed mines, 290 are regarded as gassy mines and 165 even are threatened with gas outburst. For mining safety, almost all large mines are equipped with ventilation systems to drain methane into the atmosphere. Only a few of the mines can recover methane; and only 30 percent of gas is used. China is targeting to increase its annual output of coal to 1.23 billion tons of 1995 and 1.4 billion tons by 2000 to meet the need of economic development. This implies that even more methane will be emitted if China fails to develop a proper strategy and employ new technology. Combined with a shortage of natural gas (the cleanest fossil fuel) this will have serious local and global environmental impacts. Bottlenecks to change, to date, include lack of supportive policies, lack of capital, price disincentives, and lack of technical know-how and equipment. Both internal reform and outside technical assistance are required to realize the potential for coalbed methane utilization.

In order to improve this situation, the Government of China plans to initiate a strategy including assessment of methane resources, formulation of a national plan for developing the methane, and introduction and diffusion of appropriate technologies required.

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Description of project

The long-term objectives of the project are to: (a) reduce coalbed methane emissions through technical and institutional preparation for the formulation of the national strategy to develop the methane industry; (b) introduce and demonstrate a variety of technologies and techniques; (c) sensitize policy makers at both the central and local levels about environmental and economic significance of rational recovery and use of methane resources; and (d) provide improved air quality, improved safety standards for miners and a new clean-burning energy source.

The immediate objectives are to: (a) develop a comprehensive methane recovery and utilization programme for the Songzao Mine in the Sichuan province that can be funded by an international development agency; (b) facilitate the production of coalbed methane using vertical well drilling technologies in advance of mining at Kailuan mine in order to mitigate the emissions of methane to the atmosphere; (c) facilitate the development of an integrated gas drainage system by using in-seam, horizontal drainholes in advance of mining and vertical wells drilled from the surface to reduce the emission of methane; (d) assess the potential for methane development in China and construct a database to serve as a basis for development of a programme to mitigate the emission of methane; and (e) sensitize policy makers in central and local governments of environmental and economic significance of coalbed methane and strengthen capacity of managers and engineers in resource evaluation, recovery and utilization.

The strategies to be employed include: (a) upgrading the technical and managerial levels of groups with supervisory functions; (b) improving operational practices in the field, principally at the mining corporation level; and (c) increasing the interest in and support for coalbed methane as a natural gas source. These will be achieved through: (i) provision of external expertise at each level combined with extensive training, conferences to review and disseminate results; (ii) introduction of appropriate new techniques and equipment in actual working mine situations and analysis of results; and (iii) preparation of financial, economic and technical feasibility studies. The work will lead to production of plans for commercial development, and a comprehensive methane recovery and utilization programme. Assessments of individual components of the programme will be integrated into the work plans.

Inputs

UNDP will provide 177 work-months of international consultant services, among which 127 work-months will be under subcontracts, the rest on an individual basis; seven study tours, 57 work-months for overseas training in six different technical fields; necessary equipment and vehicles to be purchased either under the subcontracts or directly by the executing agency; and miscellaneous costs.

Financial data

	$
Personnel	1 477 000
Subcontract	5 298 000
Training	773 000
Equipment	1 625 000
Agency support cost	600 000
Miscellaneous	27 000
Contingency	200 000
Total	10 000 000

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APPROVAL OF UNDP ASSISTANCE TO A PROJECT OF
PARAGUAY

IPF:(1987-91) $5 185 000

(PAR/91/002) - Export and Investment Promotion

Date of approval by the AC:[1/]	6 May 1992	
Expected duration:	Three years	
Proposed executing agency:	Government	
Government implementing agency:	PRO-PARAGUAY	
Proposed UNDP contribution:	$ 2 838 400	Source of funds: IPF
Government cost sharing:	$ 100 000	
Total UNDP budget:	$ 2 938 400	

Project background

Paraguay's economy is currently dependent on the export of primary goods, namely, cotton and soybean. Only four percent of all the country's exports are industrial products. This primary goods based economy makes Paraguay very vulnerable to international demand, price fluctuations, and climate conditions. Furthermore, it creates unfavorable terms of trade that make domestic investment into new diversified sectors more difficult. This is coupled with past Government's bias against exports through high taxes, overvalued exchange rates, and bureaucratic red tape.

The current Government, which came to power in 1989, has taken exceptional steps to insert new dynamism into the economy by establishing an economic model that is export oriented. As part of its commitment in redirecting the economy, the Government has taken two important steps: firstly, it has embarked on reform and privatization of public enterprises through the Privatization Law of 1991; and secondly, it has unleashed numerous controls which affected everything from the commercialization of certain products to price controls. On top of this, the Government has made a commitment to sound management of the economy in order to establish a stable economic environment that is inviting to foreign investment. This has included the establishment of a free exchange rate regime in 1989, as well as laws like the Investment Promotion Law and the Non-Traditional Exports Law which provide security to foreign investment and tax incentives.

The creation of this new economic framework will help Paraguay move towards full compliance with the free market accord of MERCOSUR, which will also involve Argentina, Brasil, and Uruguay, and which is scheduled to go into effect in 1995. PRO-PARAGUAY was created in 1991 under the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the Ministry of Industry as the

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Government's investment and export promotion office to foster the insertion of new Paraguayan products into foreign markets. Its role within the new economic framework will be critical since it will help to facilitate collaborative activities between the private and public sectors by serving as a representative abroad which diffuses information of business opportunities in Paraguay while also seeking out new markets for the country's goods.

Since 1991, PRO-PARAGUAY's most important activities have included training and staffing embassies and consulates with trade representatives, and facilitating/ supporting the negotiation of new investment ventures in non-traditional sectors with European, Asian, and North American firm. The Government of Paraguay has requested UNDP assistance under the present approval to quickly establish an institutional arrangement which will be efficient and effective and which will integrate fully the cooperation of private and public entities.

Description of project

The immediate objectives of the project are to: (a) provide support towards the organization and operation of PRO-PARAGUAY as an efficient instrument in investment and export promotion; and (b) assist in the integration between the public and private sector organization involved in investment and export promotion.

Project activities will involve the production of: (a) an operations manual and terms of reference for the executive posts of PRO-PARAGUAY both inside and outside the country to enable the creation of at least fifteen (15) export committees and seven PRO-PARAGUAY offices in Paraguayan embassies and trade councils; (b) a database of individuals and institutions with experience in export promotion activities; (c) a publications system for disseminating to potential investors and importers in the exterior information on PRO-PARAGUAY and specific investment and export promotion activities; (d) an internal computerized information system to permit fluid information flows between PRO-PARAGUAY offices at home and abroad; and (e) a documentation center to service Paraguayan exporters.

Inputs

UNDP will provide 11 man-months of international consultants in export promotion, commercial information, and investment promotion; 450 man-months of national experts in the areas of investment, administration, public relations, coordination of technical assistance, training, information, and legal matters; subcontracts in international promotion/publicity and trade fairs; training in the areas of export and investment promotion services; expendable and nonexpendable office equipment.

Financial data

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Personnel	1 530 000
Subcontract	732 500
Training	195 400
Equipment	169 500
Miscellaneous	311 000
Total	2 938 400

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APPROVAL OF UNDP ASSISTANCE TO A PROJECT OF BURKINA FASO

IPF:(1992-96) $51 053 000

(BKF/91/005) - Assistance in Modernization of the Public Administration

Date of approval by the AC:[1]	6 May 1992
Expected duration:	30 months
Proposed executing agency:	United Nations
Government implementing agency:	Ministry of Civil Service and Administration Modernization
Total UNDP contribution:	$2 406 900 Source of funds: (IPF-$1 406 900 (MDP-$1 000 000
Government cost sharing:	$335 300

Project background

With the technical assistance from UNDP's Structural Adjustment Advisory Team for Africa (SAATA), Burkina Faso has concluded negotiations on its first Structural Adjustmenmt Programme (SAP) in early 1991. As indicated in their Policy Framework Paper (PFP) covering the 1991-93 period, the authorities intend to reduce financial imbalances, while promoting economic growth through the provision of incentives for private investment. To these ends, they recognize that the role of the Government needs to be streamlined and refocused, thus allowing for greater private sector participation in the economy.

To achieve a real GDP growth of about four per cent p.a. on average, and increase the per-capita income in real terms, limit the annual inflation rate to less than four per cent on average, and contain the external current account deficit at less than 15 per cent of GDP, while eliminating all external arrears in 1991, the Government requested UNDP assistance under the present approval.

The Government's strategy relies on policies designed to increase production and exports of the agricultural sector which is expected to remain the main source of growth, foster the role of the private sector by creating an environment conducive to private investment and employment creation, improve the quality of human resources through better education and health services, and strengthen and rationalize public sector management.

Description of project

The project will assist the Ministry of Civil Service and Modernization of the Administration in creating the conditions within the public administration and guaranteeing the success of the SAP. Moreover, it will fit into a larger Public Institutions Assistance Programme jointly financed and managed by the Government, the World Bank (IDA), the UNDP, French and German Bilateral Cooperation and the African Development Bank. IDA has accepted funding of the equipment component ($451 000) of the UNDP Project. The contribution of the Management Development Programme (MDP) will help to enhance the internalization and institutionalization process of the technical assistance's technical capacity and know-how.

The development objective of the project is to create and enhance the public sector's capability to conceive, boost and run a development administration system in Burkina Faso.

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The immediate objectives of the project are to: (a) participate in reorganizing and modernizing public services management; (b) improve the existing human resources management system; and (c) ennhance the public administration's productivity by introducing new management methods and techniques and setting up a system capable of improving public servants capabilities and qualifications in general and managerial capabilities in particular.

Inputs

UNDP will provide a public management systems expert-CTA (30 man-months), an expert in computerized management systems (27 man-months), public human resources management expert (30 man-months), an associate expert public organization and procedures (30 man-months), a national adviser in public management,training (24 man-months), a national adviser in public administration micro-computers systems (30 man-months); two UN volunteers (48 man-months); international consultants (24 man-months); national consultants (six man-months); administrative support; in-service training, study tours, scholarships; expendable and non-expendable equipment, and miscellaneous costs.

Financial data

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Personnel	1 599 400
Training	552 500
Equipment	160 000
Miscellaneous	95 000
Total	2 406 900

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APPROVAL OF UNDP ASSISTANCE TO A PROJECT OF
THE MEMBER STATES OF THE CARIBBEAN COMMUNITY (CARICOM)

IPF:(1987-91) $49 700 000

(RLA/87/016)- Improvement of the Hurricane Warning System in the Caribbean

Date of approval by the AC[1/]	20 April 1987
Expected duration:	Three years
Proposed executing agency:	World Meteorological Organization(WMO)
Government implementing agency:	National Meteorological Services
Proposed UNDP contribution:	$770 500 Source of funds : IPF
WMO Contribution :	$241 800 Source of funds : VCP
Total UNDP budget:	$770 500

Project background

The countries of the Commonwealth Caribbean are extremely vulnerable to natural disaster, particularly major tropical storms and hurricanes which, over the years, have seriously affected their economies and led to loss of many lives. In the early 1980s, the Governments took the decision to put in place an integrated network of hurricane surveillance radars, flood forecasting and warning dissemination, equipment maintenance service, and training in various aspects of meteorology, with the support of USAID, UNDP, and the Netherlands Government. There is now an urgent need to upgrade the existing radar network which is functioning at a sub-optimal level, and to provide training for the installation, maintenance and operation of the upgraded equipment. To this end the Governments requested UNDP assistance under the present approval.

Description of project

The project is designed to develop and increase the cooperative efforts of the English-speaking Caribbean countries in preparing and disseminating meteorological data on all tropical cyclones that affect the region. Specifically, the functioning of the hurricane warning system will be made more effective with appropriate radar and other telecommunications facilities, and further training.

Inputs

UNDP will provide 18 man-months of personnel including consultants in electronic

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meteorological equipment, meteorological instruments, and telecommunications; training (fellowships and workshops); and meteorological equipment.

Financial data

	$
Personnel	148 500
Training	60 000
Equipment	556 000
Miscellaneous	6 000
Total	770 500

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